Marshall Community Meeting Comprehensive Plan Update January 8, 2008

Minutes

1. Welcome and Overview – Peter Schwartz, Marshall District Supervisor

Mr. Schwartz welcomed everyone. He intends that this be an open committee with broad participation. He encouraged attendees to invite their friends and neighbors to participate. Advertisements about the community meetings will be placed in the Marshall Business & Residents Association newsletter and on the web at this address: http://www.fauquiercounty.gov/government/committees/marshallsvcdist/

Mr. Schwartz thanked the owners of Tri-County Feeds. Etc. for allowing the group to use their board room and being so accommodating. He then introduced Fauquier County staff members Rick Carr (Director, Community Development) and Susan Eddy (Chief of Planning), as well as planning consultant Milton Herd (Herd Planning & Design Ltd.) who all will be working closely with the participants throughout this process.

Mr. Schwartz concluded by stating that this plan update will look at the entire service district. It is intended to be a visioning process for the community to define how it sees itself and where it wants to go, so that the County can react appropriately to growth and development proposals in the future and still maintain its identity.

2. Schedule Overview, Housekeeping, etc. –Susan Eddy, Chief of Planning

Ms. Eddy reviewed the schedule of topics through May 2008. A question arose about how the group could isolate the topics of the gateway, transportation and land use from each other, as they are inter-related. Ms. Eddy recognized that in every meeting there will likely be topics that will overlap, which is perfectly acceptable. Yet, they need to be given their own days for discussion, as they are larger topics. A participant suggested that the intersection of Route-17 and Interstate-66 be discussed as a sub-topic of transportation. The topics of historic resources, environmental resources and utilities are not listed on the schedule, but will be incorporated in almost all of the scheduled topics.

Participants were asked to sign up for the County's e-notification to receive communication from the Department of Community Development about the Marshall meetings (click here to sign up). For participants who do not have Internet capability, County staff will provide hard-copies upon request. Should anyone have questions, please contact the Planning Office at (540) 347-8660.

3. Form Based Code Update –Milt Herd, Herd Planning & Design Ltd.

Mr. Herd updated the group on Marshall's Form Based Code project, which is a zoning code that will help additional development fit in with the Main Street vision of a traditional town design. A build-out analysis and a list of land/building uses are forthcoming, followed by a review by the Planning Commission. Elements of the Code will be incorporated in the Marshall Plan Update in order to achieve continuity.

4. Video Presentation of Ed McMahon, The Conservation Fund

The group then watched a 60-minute video presentation by Ed McMahon, entitled "The Dollars and Sense of Preserving Community Character". The premise of the film was how communities can:

- protect physical locations and characteristics that people value;
- incorporate new development without destroying its unique sense of place;
- capitalize on its unique character, including natural and cultural resources, that is good for everyone, including business;
- preserve mature trees and use landscaping as a key design feature that draws in more customers for businesses, creates attractive neighborhoods, and is better for the environment all-around;
- mix business and residential uses, which results in vibrant places to live, work and shop; and
- restore historic buildings that, in turn, attract more business.

Should anyone wish to watch the video presentation, please contact the Planning Office.

5. Meeting Adjourned – 9:00 p.m.